
SENATE RESOLUTION

DESIGNATING NOVEMBER AS ALZHEIMER'S AND DEMENTIA AWARENESS MONTH
IN THE STATE OF HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, Alzheimer's disease is a neurodegenerative disease
2 that causes a person to progressively lose their memory and
3 overall cognitive function over time, robbing a person of their
4 short-term and long-term memory and significantly impacting
5 their loved ones; and
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7 WHEREAS, Alzheimer's disease is the most common form of
8 dementia, accounting for between 60 to 80 percent of all
9 dementia cases; and
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11 WHEREAS, someone in the United States develops Alzheimer's
12 or some form of dementia every 65 seconds; and
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14 WHEREAS, there are currently 5.7 million people living with
15 Alzheimer's in the United States, and the Alzheimer's
16 Association projects that number to grow to 14 million by 2050;
17 and
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19 WHEREAS, Alzheimer's disease is the sixth leading cause of
20 death in the United States, killing more people than breast
21 cancer and prostate cancer combined, with one out of three
22 seniors dying from Alzheimer's disease according to the
23 Alzheimer's Association; and
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25 WHEREAS, it is estimated that there are 27,000 people aged
26 65 and older with Alzheimer's disease living in Hawaii today, a
27 number that is expected to increase by more than 40 percent by
28 2025; and
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30 WHEREAS, the Alzheimer's Association estimated that the
31 cost of care for a person living with Alzheimer's disease is
32 approximately \$341,840 and Alzheimer's disease and other forms
33 of dementia cost people in the United States a combined \$277
34 billion in 2018; and



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2 WHEREAS, although no cure is currently available for
3 Alzheimer's disease, increased public awareness and an early and
4 accurate diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease and other forms of
5 dementia may reduce the costs of care for a person living with
6 Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia; and
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8 WHEREAS, an early and accurate diagnosis could save up to
9 \$7.9 trillion in medical costs; and
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11 WHEREAS, nearly nine percent of people age 45 and older
12 report experiencing confusion or memory loss with increasing
13 frequency or severity, and more than 60 percent of those
14 reporting have not talked to a health care provider about these
15 conditions; and
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17 WHEREAS, President Ronald Reagan designated November as
18 Alzheimer's Awareness Month nationally in 1983; and
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20 WHEREAS, the public should be encouraged to learn more
21 about Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia; now,
22 therefore,
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24 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature
25 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019, that the month
26 of November is designated as Alzheimer's and Dementia Awareness
27 Month to encourage residents to learn more about Alzheimer's
28 disease and related ailments and acknowledge and thank the
29 Alzheimer's Association Aloha Chapter for providing access to
30 resources and support to communities across Hawaii; and
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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that designating November as
33 Alzheimer's and Dementia Awareness Month will place individuals
34 and their families on a path to managing disease-related
35 challenges and encourage them to contact the Alzheimer's
36 Association Aloha Chapter to access resources and receive
37 support for planning for the future and living well with
38 Alzheimer's disease; and
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40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
41 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and Executive Director
42 of the Alzheimer's Association Aloha Chapter.

